MATWATCH

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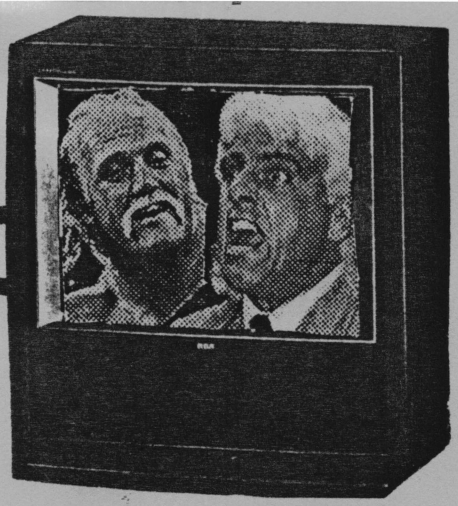
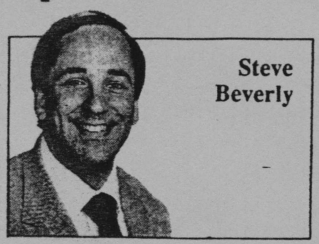


Out 2 to 6 Months

WHAT NEXT? STING SEVERELY INJURED IN CORPUS CHRISTI

ATLANTA ---- Steve "Sting" Borden was to have surgery Tuesday morning in Birmingham on a severely damaged knee, an injury suffered at the end of last week's CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS X: TEXAS SHOOTOUT from Corpus Christi on TBS.



Steve Beverly

Sting suffered what was diagnosed as a tear of the patella tendon, the specific tendon which holds the kneecap in place. It occurred when he was being pulled back from a second attempt to climb a cage to get revenge at Ric Flair, who ---along with Ole and Arn Anderson---had turned on Sting during an early-show angle. The angle was to build heat for the Feb. 25 WRESTLE WAR '90 Flair-Sting NWA world title bout.

Sting was taken to the emergency room of a Corpus Christi hospital for examination, then flown back to Atlanta for tests from a WCW orthopedist Wednesday. The 30-year-old Californian, predicted by many to win the belt from Flair in Greensboro, is being treated by Dr. James Andrews, an orthopedic surgeon at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, noted as one of the five best in his field in America and a past surgeon for injured NBA and NFL athletes.

Thursday afternoon, World Championship Wrestling senior vice president Jim Herd told MATWATCH, "It doesn't look good. It depends on whether the tendon was a complete tear away from the bone or just a partial tear. On the outside, in a worst-case scenario, he could be out as long as six months. If it's only a partial tear, he could be able to go by May or June."

WCW President Jack Petrik reacted as many hardcore fans at what is the most serious of a continuing saga of injuries to top performers in the Turner group. "This was to be one of our biggest pay-per-view shows ever," said Petrik. "We felt there would be a lot of interest in Flair-Sting and we'd hoped to have El Gigante (Jorge Gonzalez) premiere on the 25th. "Gonzalez came down with pancreatitis and now this to Sting. I can't imagine what's going to happen next."

In the last year, injuries have occurred to Rick Steiner, Eddie Gilbert, Sid Vicious (expected to remain out with a punctured lung through June 1) and Terry Funk when each was in the middle of championships or major angles. Sting had been sidelined for a brief period in September with an ankle injury.

The Sting misfortune, has forced WCW to put Lex Luger into the Feb. 25 title match vs. Flair to make eleventh-hour alterations in the PPV show (see box) a week from Sunday. It will be Luger's third try at Flair on a pay-cable show in three years and analysts outside the NWA say Luger almost has to win this one to maintain credibility with the fans as a major star. "If Lex doesn't this time, most average fans will be convinced he'll never win it. As they see it, he got ripped off at the '88 BASH and at STARRCADE in '88, Flair got him with the leg on the ropes," said one insider who asked to remain anonymous. "Particularly after that angle at the CLASH, people want to see Flair lose that belt."

Herd said the match will be treated as a heel vs. heel event, after the Flair return to villainry Tuesday night, though fans are heavily expected to cheer Luger. "We want Lex to keep his heel heat," said Herd, and on-air promotion is expected to be focused in that direction." Flair and Arn Anderson were heavily booed at TV tapings in Beaumont TX Wednesday night and Luger heard big cheers.

With the resignation of Steve Williams, who quit WCW Thursday, the WW'90 show will have one fewer match (Williams had been skedded for a U.S. title bout vs. Luger). Luger will be built as the possible first ever to hold both NWA world and U.S. belts. Several scenarios for post-WW'90 were being discussed by the TBS group over the weekend but a Luger title win would almost certainly return him to a babyface role.

Part of the dilemma stems from the NWA currently having 26 wrestlers locked into tag team situations and---with five tag matches booked for WW, the card would need too much revamping for adequate promotion. Unless Luger becomes a face, the second most popular singles face in the entire promotion now is Norman.

As one analyst put it Thursday night, "This is going to be the biggest test the company has faced. They're backed into a corner and how well they'll function in the months to come will depend on how they pull out of this crisis."

MORE CLASH

CLASH: THE TV SHOW.....Page 2

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

DON KING: TYSON-HOGAN FOR $200 MILLION

TOKYO----Promoter Don King has told the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS a Hulk Hogan-Mike Tyson match could take place if "Vince (McMahon) can come up with the money---and I'm talking between $100 and $200 million."

The WWF denies any contact was made with King but the boxing guru says, "We talked about doing it. I don't know if we would consider doing it in the near future."

One source has told MATWATCH Tyson asked $5 million, half a hotel in Tor-

(Continued on Page 2)

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

(Continued from Page 1)

onto and 30 limousines for his entourage. McMahon determined, according to insiders, that the asking price was too high.

HOGAN-GORDY IN JAPAN? THAT'S THE TALK

TOKYO----International sources have told MATWATCH a Hulk Hogan-Terry Gordy WWF title match is being negotiated for the combined WWF-All Japan-New Japan show.

The report is unconfirmed but sources say Gordy would then sign a 2-year deal with Titan Sports, possibly in an effort to save wear and tear on his ailing knees with the lessened workrate requirements in the WWF.

WILLIAMS LEAVES WCW; MUTA ??? BUT WILL MEET

ATLANTA ---- Steve (Dr. Death) Williams has left World Championship Wrestling, in apparent discontent with his role in the group. The move, rumored for weeks, came last Thursday after the emergency elevation of Lex Luger into the Feb. 25 NWA world title match vs. Ric Flair.

Williams had been scheduled for a shot at Luger's U.S. belt. He'll work Japan and U.S. independents.

In another situation, Keiiji (Great Muta) Muto was to meet with WCW officials early this week to resolve his role. Muta has been rumored ready to leave after being relegated to an upcoming tag slot with Buzz Sawyer vs. Tommy Rich and Dutch Mantel.

Fans have been clamoring for Muta as a babyface for months but NWA bookers have refused to turn him. Muta told one TBS exec last week, "Why should I stay? They have no plans for me."

VICIOUS AGREES TO DEAL; EXPECTED BACK BY SUMMER

ATLANTA ---- Skyscraper Sid Vicious has agreed to a new contract with World Championship Wrestling and will return June 1.

Vicious (Sid Eudy) has been recovering from a punctured lung suffered during a melee at the November CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS and is expected back as a babyface to gain revenge on current Skyscrapers Danny Spivey and Mark Callous.

WCW senior vice president Jim Herd told MATWATCH Terry Funk has visited Vicious and his medical progress is encouraging.

Pinfall Profile

CLASH X: THE TV SHOW

If you could classify a highlight of TEXAS SHOOTOUT, other than the Flair-Sting angle and subsequent Sting mishap, it's that this was the most graphically-interesting CLASH from a production standpoint.

Pre-produced video vignettes prior to ring introductions, particularly the Dr. Death ambulance sequence and Norman's visit to the zoo were innovative surprise touches. Name graphics were the equal to SATURDAY NIGHT'S MAIN EVENT quality.

Director Keith Mitchell produced the most brilliantly-lighted CLASH to date. Aside from a couple of quick, errant hand-held camera shots, the visual production was virtually flawless.

Audio, in spots, was another story. Tardiness was registered a few times for ring intro episodes (Teddy Long's, i.e.) and the mix of crowd noises vs. announcers was puzzling. I've talked to four people who were at the live show and was told it was the most rabid, lively crowd they've heard but on-air, the mix made the crowd often sound like a WRESTLEMANIA at Trump Plaza congregation. Likewise, Jim Cornette appeared overly hyper at times because of the week audio balance, yet Corny was having to yell to compensate for the crowd volume.

As for the wrestling, it was quite acceptable, except few cared for the Mil Mascaras-Cactus Jack Manson match and the M.O.D. Squad were not complementary for Zenk & Pillman. I've heard criticism the finale should have been longer but I disagree because it was primarily an angle as opposed to a match. Plus, you knew the early-show turn was "over" when the crowd began cheering profusely for Muta/Sawyer/Dragonmaster. Kendo Nagasaki hasn't been cheered in 20 years. The reax was so strong, it was evidence how badly this group needs Muta as a face.

Ole Anderson managed to get the turn over and it needed to be done by an outside party from Flair to make it truly effective. One can argue how variations may have been better but the net result is that it succeeded and that's all that matters.

The out-of-arena production used to finish the Norman match was one of the funniest bits I've seen this group ever do. It had Terry Funk written all over it. Any doubt Norman is getting the reaction from kids now that WCW had hoped the Dingdongs would? Some folks argued with me last summer but Norman is a catalyst performer---he'll never be a title contender but a great mid-show character. I loved Kevin Sullivan's Ox Bakeresque fall out of the ladies' bathroom.

As for Funk, his role needs to be clearly defined as either a heel or face. It was confusing because he was so aggressive in support of Lex Luger (whose interview didn't really add up to anything), yet in other spots, he was the lovable comic.

In announcing, Jim Ross was again solid and went back to the basics of giving a lot of strong background on the wrestlers. Corny was funny most of the evening, though the Spanish jokes were marginal in taste. Unfortunately, the lighting did not flatter Gordon Solie, who looked old on camera. Except for the backstage bit with Norman and Sullivan, Gordon added little to this special. The veteran Gordon Solie we remember would have been much more challenging and aggressive toward the Horsemen in their post-turn interview.

MATWATCH 25 SCALE

QUALITY OF MATCHES	2.8	
ANNOUNCING	4.2	TOTAL RATING:
TOTAL PRODUCTION	4.3	
CROWD ENTHUSIASM	3.3	18.1
OVERALL EXCELLENCE	3.5	

SCALE: PINFALL! - Must See. PILEDRIVER - Excellent. POWERSLAM - Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB - Poor. PLUS - Midscale

(TBS/CLASH X) - Steve Williams d. Samoan Savage; ANGLE: Ole Anderson tells Sting he's no longer a Horseman because he accepted the Feb. 25 match vs. Ric Flair. Flair, Ole and Arn turn on Sting and pummel him. Ole gives Sting a 2-hour ultimatum to resign from the title match; Tom Zenk/Brian Pillman d. M.O.D. Squad; Norman d. Kevin Sullivan when the two brawl into the ladies' room. Kevin careens from the latreen and Norman, with a toilet seat around his neck, is declared the winner; Mil Mascaras d. Cactus Jack Manson; ANGLE: A rock band drives Cactus nuts & when Cactus goes after the lead guitarist, drummer J.T. Thomas brawls with Cactus; Road Warriors d. Skyscrapers by DQ when Danny Spivey bashes Animal & Hawk w. a chair; NWA WORLD TAG TITLE: Steiners d. DOOMED, who unmask (Ron Simmons & Butch Reed); CAGE MATCH: Flair/Ole/Arn d. Great Muta/Dragonmaster/Buzz Sawyer but Sting and Ric brawl after Sting tries to get in the cage. POWERSLAM-PLUS.

(LUCHA LIBRE/GALAVISION) - (6-MAN) Octagon/Rafaga Azul/Tauro Jr. d. Panico/Zorro deOro/Canelo Casa 2-3 falls; (6-MAN) Comando Ruso/El Hijo del Gladiador/Fuerza Guerra d. Mogur/Chamaco Valguezo/Remo Bando 2-3; (6-MAN) Herodes/Emilio Charles Jr./Espectro Jr. d. Pipitekus/Kung Fu/Ringdo Mendoza 2-3; (6-MAN) Los Brazos d. Pierroth Jr./Ulises/El Gran Markus Jr. 2-3. RESTHOLD.

(AWA/ESPN) - (TAPED FIST) Sgt. Slaughter d. Russian Brute but Sarge & Baron Von Raschke shove each other after when Brute attacks Sarge; Col. DeBeers d. George Anderson; Texas Hangmen d. Kent Carlson/Jake Milliman; Yukon John Nord d. Spike Jones; Larry Zbyszko d. Tony Leone. BOMB.

(WWF/USA) - Bushwackers d. Brooklyn Brawler/Mike Justin; Rick Martel d. Reno Riggins; Rockers d. George South/Mike Davis; Dino Bravo d. Tito Santana by countout when John Tenta interferes; Honky Tonk Man/Greg Valentine d. Tony & Bill Mulkey; Hercules d. Bob Bradley; Jake Roberts d. Ted DiBiase by DQ when Bubba Bossman interferes and followup Bro. Luv-DiBiase-Roberts angle; Bolsheviks d. Tim Bronson/Chuck Coates; Koko B. Ware d. Kerry Booth; Hart Foundation d. Powers of Pain by countout when Fuji hits Warlord & Bret creams both P.O.P. w. cane after. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(WWF/SYND.) - [CHALLENGE]: Brutus Beefcake d. Pete Sanchez; Ware d. Booth; Sean Michaels d. Keith Hart; Tenta d. Evans; REPLAY: Roberts-DiBiase angle; Conquistadors d. Fred/Gorman. [SUPERSTARS]: Roddy Piper d. Tom Stone; Hercules d. Karl Nelson; Bravo d. Jerry Brownstein; Ronnie Garvin d. Sanchez; BRO. LUV w. Martel; REPLAY: Jake-DiBiase-Bossman angle; Demolition d. Powers of Pain by DQ when Mr. Fuji tosses in cane. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(USWA) - BULLROPE MATCH: Dustin Rhodes d. Gary Young when Medicine Man runs in; Junkyard Dog d. Jerry Lawler by DQ when Lawler & Terrence Garvin doubleteam JYD but JYD rallies to cream both; FOOTBALL MATCH: Matt Borne d. P.Y. Chu'i. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

TV TEMPO

Feb. 5-11

(NWA/SYND.) - [WORLD WIDE]: (U.S. TAG TOURNEY) Freebirds d. Tommy Rich/Eddie Gilbert; Steiners d. Terminator/Hacksaw Higgins; Midnight Express d. Rock & Roll Express when Corny uses the racket; Lex Luger d. Bob Cook; FUNK'S GRILL: Terry asks Horsemen why they turned on Sting. RESTHOLD-PLUS. [NWA PRO]: Skyscrapers d. Paul Drake/Robbie Idol; Sullivan d. Pat Rose; Williams d. Lt. James Earl Wright; Dynamic Dudes d. Manson/Mike Rotunda & Cactus beats the tar out of Rotunda and brawl ensues. Mike vows to "get himself straight" and take care of Cactus. RESTHOLD.

(CWA) - Jeff Jarrett d. Billy Travis by DQ when Lawler runs in; Jarrett/Kerry Von Erich d. Alex Parteau/The Shootist; Travis d. Texas Battleship; JYD d. Lawler. RESTHOLD.

(SCW) - Mr. Wrestling II d. David Bell; Billy Starr d. Tony Keith; Jimmy Powell d. Tom Horne; Chic Donovan d. Billy White; Ted Allen d. Dino Minnelli. BOMB-PLUS.

(ICW) - S.D. Jones d. Chris Michaels; Krunchski d. Billy Reed; RUMBLE SEAT: Ray Oddyssey slaps Tony Rumble for insulting him; Lethal Weapons d. Vic Steamboat/Phil Apollo. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(WVEU/SUPERSTARS) - Samuel Kent offers Boni Blackstone a Valentine's candy box as a gift but only 3 eaten pieces are in it. Kent says it's his co-host duty to keep Boni from porking out and blimping up, so he gave the candy to the rest of the camera crew.

(PWF) - GUEST HOSTS: Wayne Coulter, Ted Webb. BATTLE ROYAL: Hurricane Walker eliminates Jim Backlund & Ron Slinker to win; Brickhouse Brown d. Wild Thing; Steve Keirn d. Backlund on reversal; Tyree Pride d. Coconut Kid; Frankie Lancaster d. Hollywood Rob; Walker d. Dennis Knight; ANGLE: Rev. Billy C. Wirtz comes out with blonde wig to impersonate Diamond Dallas Page. DOUBLE BOMB.

(NWA/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Sawyer/Muta d. Zam Panzer/Italian Stallion; WNN: Gordon blasts the Horsemen for attacking Sting; Skyscrapers d. Galaxians; FUNK'S GRILL: Terry turns the segment over to Jim Cornette to do LOUISVILLE SLUGGER; Sting d. Jacko Victory. RESTHOLD.
[WCW]: Norman d. Rose; (U.S. TAG TOURNEY) Dudes d. M.O.D. Squad; Zenk/Pillman d. Royal Family; OTHERS: Road Warriors d. State Patrol; Gladiator d. Keith Hart; Steiners d. Stallion/Cook; Skyscrapers d. Sean Regal/Panzer; M Ex d. Robbie Idol/Paul Drake; Doug Furnas d. Galaxian Alpha; Sawyer d. Tommy Rich using trunks; (CLASH REPLAYS) Horsemen turn & Flair-Sting melee; Skyscrapers-Warriors; Steiners-DOOMED; UPDATE: Jim Ross tells of Sting's injury and treatment; LOUISVILLE SLUGGER: Corny w. Dr. Death. DRAW.
[MAIN EVENT]: (Top Match) Road Warriors/Williams d. Samoan Trio. DRAW.

LINES OF THE WEEK

1. Jim Cornette, NWA: "It'd be a psychiatrist's dream to have Rick Steiner, Cactus Jack and Buzz Sawyer all outside in the waiting room. 2. Terry Funk, WWW: "This M.O.D. Squad looks like they'd stick a knife in your back and have you arrested for carrying a concealed weapon." 3. Funk, WWW: "Parents, be sure & ask your kids' permission before you call that 900 number." 4. Samuel P. Kent, WVEU: "Boni, it's my co-hostly duty to keep you from porking out on this Valentine candy but if you want to eat these pinched pieces, it's okay with me." 5. Kent, WVEU, to Big Red: "You're the guy with the motto: I NEVER MET A PECAN PIE I DIDN'T LIKE." 6. Michael Hayes, NWA PRO: "Cactus Jack even has a 4-4 record against himself." 7. Bobby Heenan, PTW: "Luke & Butch are a petting zoo on the road." 8. Heenan, PTW, on Tenta splashing Santana: "The last time Tito's stomach hurt that bad was when he had dinner at his mom's house." 9. Kent, WVEU, to Red: "I guess you're the taste tester for 365 days of school lunches." 10. Hayes, NWA PRO: "The Horsemen need Sting like I need a hangover."

11. Gorilla Monsoon & Heenan, PTW: (GM) "If I were to say to you...Tony & Bill Mulkey." (BH) "Do they run a pawn shop?" 12. Jesse Ventura, WWF: "Just once in your lifetime, McMahon, I'd just like for you to feel a chop." 13. Ventura, WWF, on Demolition-P.O.P.: "This is kinda like Jason taking on Freddy." 13. Larry Zbyszko, AWA, on fans: "If these fools were in Romania, they'd take 'em out and shoot 'em." 14. Cornette, PH: "Ever since Terry (Funk) got on the air, people stopped breathing it." 15. Rev. Billy C. Wirtz, PWF: "Diamond Dallas isn't on tour with Motley Crue, he's in London working as a go-go dancer for Slim Whitman." 16. Marc Lowrance, USWA, to Terrence Garvin: "You played hockey and got hit in the head by the puck and that's why you're the way you are." 17. Hayes, NWA PRO, on Cactus Jack: "He's kinda like getting a flat tire and going to have your oil checked." 18. Jim Ross, CLASH X, to satellite dish owners: "We just want to remind you people illegally receiving this broadcast, the FBI could visit your home at any time during the next 2 1/2 hours." 19. Rick Martel, WWF, to Brother LUV: "You always have such style and are always color-coordinated."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Ventura, WWF: "McMahon, I don't need YOU to make ME look good." 2. Hayes, NWA PRO: "Goodbye to the LANCE & BOB Geritol Show."

TASTELESS COMMENT - Jerry Lawler, to USWA fan: "Aunt Jemima, you better sit down and shut up or Uncle Ben's gonna come after you."

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. THE LUNCH WAGON OF SCW (Kent on Big Red). 2. CAPT. KANGAROO FUNK (Terrence Garvin on Jimmy Jack). 3. PERIPHERAL VISIONARY (Ross on Cornette).

QUESTION OF THE WEEK - Ventura, WWF, to McMahon: "Did you take Advance Punmaking II?"

BEST PICTURES - 1. USWA, Lawler reaching in boot for chain. 2. TBS, Buzz Sawyer missing fly onto Tommy Rich. 3. WWF, Rick Martel spraying a can of "arrogance." 4. AWA, Ox Baker choking Sgt. Slaughter. 5. TBS, Norman wearing headsets at color mike.

BOO AWARDS - 1. TBS, for no Lex Luger on the Saturday WCW show. Even though the show was taped before the CLASH, not having him on two weeks before a pay-per-view is not good promotion. 2. USWA, for a disqualification in a bullrope match. Come on, guys. 3. PWF, for a horrible TV effort.

TUBE TALK

Considering that every NWA TV episode was taped prior to Tuesday night, the group did the best it could to update the Sting situation on TBS. Syndicated shows had already been distributed to stations but Jim Ross cut those POWER HOUR and WCW showending updates in the studio Thursday....Next week is the real test to see how Luger is thrust into the title role. Expect to see a hospital interview with Sting....The CLASH replay Thursday late night averaged a huge 5% share.

Next week on WWF SUPERSTARS: Brutus Beefcake vs. Rick Rude....It's really ironic to see a Dusty interview and watch him call off all these names (Rude, Powers of Pain) who left the NWA while he was still booker....Some people can't stand "The Model," but I have to tell you, he's one of the better-portrayed characters in wrestling....Don't believe any rumors about the NWA making any steals of WWF talent. It's too close to WRESTLEMANIA and it's just not going to happen.

Can you believe they actually did Tommy Rich vs. Buzz Sawyer on WCW?....The Lance Russell-Michael Hayes team was a real shot in the arm for NWA PRO and tension from Hayes brought out the true Lance personality we haven't seen in a while. Now, if they'd let Lance get more involved in angles.

BULLETIN

TOKYO ---- James (Buster) Douglas upset Mike Tyson in the tenth round by knockout Saturday night to win the undisputed world heavyweight boxing title. At press time, no indication on the bearing on Tyson's participation at the Feb. 23 MAIN EVENT on NBC.

ONE YEAR AGO IN MATWATCH...

---TONY SCHIAVONE bolts the NWA for WWF. TBS says it's looking at Lee Marshall, Jack Reynolds and Charlie Platt as possible replacements.

---WWF ALL-AMERICAN noses NWA MAIN EVENT, 3.4 to 3.2 in cable ratings. WCW only draws a 2.5 in its new 7:05 slot.

---LARRY ZBYSZKO wins the AWA title in a battle royal.

---THE NEW YORK TIMES publishes testimony by Titan Sports officials to New Jersey legislators that wrestling outcomes are predetermined.

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KING-VINCE: In that DAILY NEWS story, Don King said he was considering a business alliance with McMahon on 3 fronts: a joint Titan-King syndicated boxing TV network, Tyson PPV fights as joint ventures and an entertainment division to produce cartoons and movies with Tyson. Maybe they could cut a deal with Beefcake to cut King's hair.

$1 MILLION REF: Tyson, according to King, will receive $1 million for his ref work at THE MAIN EVENT next week. But Bill Cayton, Tyson's estranged manager, says he'd never approve of Tyson getting into the ring with Hogan.

HOGAN IN VARIETY: I've had several quality sources tell me the story in VARIETY that Hogan is trying to negotiate out of his Titan deal to go to work for Disney is one of the best McMahon publicity plants ever. It's all designed to make people believe Ultimate Warrior will win the belt at WM6.

PIPER'S POOP: Roddy continues to be less than enchanted working weekend double shots and his recent removal from PRIME TIME which, arguably, has lost its zip since Piper's departure. Some talk is he will try to negotiate out of the WWF this fall and possibly return to help Don Owen again.

EAST & WEST: NWA has an April 26 date at the Meadowlands and a tentative May event at the Cow Palace in San Francisco.

ICW ON THE MOVE: ICW has only one more recap show in the can but reports are the group is moving to Florida. Word has it Mario Savoldi is negotiating with a well-known name to work with the group.

MORE CONTRACTS: Two different stories are out on this but we've been told Eddie Gilbert is close to a new 1-year NWA but wants more specifics on his role. Bob Orton is not returning to Titan, as previously reported. PWF continues to report Buddy Landell as coming in but Buddy hasn't shown.

AFTERCLASH: Lex Luger was quite annoyed backstage after his FUNK'S GRILL seg. He felt he'd been abruptly cut off during his interview and didn't hesitate to express his anger after the shot.

IT'S BUSINESS: Luger and Sting are now business partners. They were to sign papers in the last week for joint ownership of a gym in Cincinnati and are looking for others.

PPV CHANGES: Some alterations for the NWA's PPV schedule: The June show, SUMMER SIZZLER, has been scrapped and replaced by CAPITAL COMBAT May 19 from the D.C. Armory in Washington. The BASH show, likely again from Baltimore, has been moved up from Aug. 26 to July 7. With all the injuries, WCW is hopeful Sting and El Gigante can be ready for the July event.

THE NATIONAL: Dave Meltzer's weekly column in the new national sports daily was scheduled in last Friday. But Titan Sports, in their usual misguided attempt to "control" the media, has applied pressure to kill the column.

THE ROCKIES: Bob and Barry Orton will headline a ROCKY MOUNTAIN WRESTLING card Feb. 28 in Denver. The Ortons meet Raven Gleneagle and Spiritspeak Thundercloud.

MATWATCHINGS

STAMPEDED: All of the rings are up for sale from Stu Hart's promotion, probably the final indicator that Stampede is dead, which means about 20 guys are looking for work.

TITANED AGAIN: One of those is Owen Hart. Talk is Owen will return to Titan as himself. But again, this is where WCW should strike quickly for Owen during its current crisis.

NORMAN: Lots of disagreement The Committee about Norm but he's on a big upward swing and they better not let him get away. His ring music, "Shout," is fine but why hasn't anyone dug up the old 1962 hit "Norman" by Sue Thompson? The words would be hilarious. I wouldn't be surprised to see a "doctor" come out and "certify" Norm as cured before long.

CAGE CLASH: AWA has a "Clash in the Cage" Saturday night in Rochester MN. The Destruction Crew will face Paul Diamond & the Trooper in a non-title cage match. Larry Zbyszko defends the AWA belt in a 2-3 fall match against Nikita Koloff. Col. DeBeers goes into a "triathlon" against Yukon John Nord. The tri are: a 1-minute arm wrestling bout, a 2-minute over-the-top match and a 2-man tug-of-war.

FRONT OFFICE: Dale Gagner is leaving as director of live events and personnel in the AWA and will be replaced by Bob Ryan. Gagner is entering a new business venture.

POINTED IN TEXAS: On the Texas swing, the Road Warriors held an impromptu news conference and among other things, said they were "fed up," wanted to "go to the WWF," wanted to "go to Japan" and had beaten "tougher guys in back alleys" than the Skyscrapers. ?????

THE CREAMERS: A coming young duo is The Cream Team, now working the indie route in Virginia. On Larry Katz's Baltimore radio show Feb. 4 they said, "The only reason we won't win the U.S. tag team tournament is because we're not in it."

LATE ANNUALS: A limited number of MATWATCH 1989 ANNUAL: THE DECADE THAT CHANGED IT ALL editions are still available. The late price for orders is $12 (U.S./Canada) and $20 (overseas). If enough late orders come in, we may be able to make one more printing run. Check, cash or money order to: STEVE BEVERLY, 213 PINE HILLS AVE., AUBURN AL 36830.

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CLASHLINES

JIM CORNETTE

1. "Rick Steiner stayed up all night studying for a urine test." 2. "Pillman was gonna be a nude centerfold but when the film came back from the darkroom, he was underdeveloped." 3. "Norman's so fat, he's got furniture disease. His chest is in his drawers." 4. The Samoan Savage is so ugly, when he gets up in the morning, he has to ambush breakfast." 5. (On the Tough Guyz): "I heard their last record. It wasn't released. It escaped." 6. "The Midnight Express had to go to a political fundraiser for The Committee to Re-Elect Mayor Marion Barry." 7. "We'd have had more Spanish fans but the border patrol hired on extra help this week."

JIM ROSS

1. (On Luger): "He's as pompous as an undertaker at a $10,000 funeral." 2. "The breakfast room at a honeymoon hotel isn't as vacant as Cactus Jack's mind. He's an idiot!" 3. (To Corny): "You see into the future...but only on the fringe of issues." 4. (On Doc) "No appointment necessary, drop-ins are welcome."

OTHERS

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Cornette, to Ross after his hot comments on the Horsemen: "Jim, you're gonna have a stroke!" 2. Corny, on Steiners: "They're living proof that colleges will pass star athletes no matter how stupid they are."

BLOOPERS - 1. Gary Cappetta, "CAPTAIN Jack Manson." 2. Lex Luger, "The list of ALLOCADES is endless." 3. TBS, for WW'90 promo plugging Steiners-Andersons BEFORE Horsemen turn. 4. Terry Funk, saying Luger was 4-time U.S. champ (it's 3). 5. Brian Pillman, "I know how dig that hurt deeps." 6. Ross, initially calling the Frankensteiner a Steinerline.

BEST PICTURES - 1. Norman-Sullivan restroom scenes. 2. Hawk being posted. 3. Pillman flying double clothesline. 4. Corny shooting racket like rifle. 5. Samoan Savage clotheslining Doc off tackle try. 6. Sting-Flair finale.

ENGLISH LESSON - Teddy Long on Hawk: "He don't look so bad now, do he?" Ross: "Do he? Do he who? Corny: "Thomas Dewey. He almost won the presidency one time."

DREADED GLITCHES - 1. Teddy's audio late on pre-taped video intro. 2. Cueing of Norman's video intro could be heard on air. 3. One clip of Jim Ross' audio.

RATINGS RAP

CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS X pulled a 4.5 rating and 6.8 share of audience (2.42 million homes). That was down 2% in rating from last year's ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE in February but up in total homes 16% over last years 2.06 million.

The cage match and Flair-Sting post-match melee drew a 5.9 rating and 9.0 share (3.15 million homes), third-most watched event ever on a CLASH special. The first half-hour only posted a 3.8 rating but the Horsemen turn angle at 8:30 jumped to a 4.3. Averages for the remaining half hours: (8:30-9) 4.2, (9-9:30), 4.3. (9:30-10) 4.7, (10-10:30) 5.8.

The week's other major development was the dramatic resurgence of WWF ALL-AMERICAN for no apparent reason. The Sunday noon series roared to a 3.4 rating and 8.2 share, well up from its 2.4 average for the year.

CABLE

Week Ending Feb. 6	Rating	Share	Total Homes
NWA CLASH X (TBS 2/6)	4.5	6.8	2.42 million
NWA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (TBS 2/3)	3.6	7.0	1.89 million
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 2/4)	3.4	8.2	1.75 million
NWA MAIN EVENT (TBS 2/4)	3.1	5.5	1.63 million
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 2/5)	2.8	4.4	1.44 million
NWA POWER HOUR (TBS 2/2)	2.7	4.7	1.42 million
NWA POWER HOUR [Replay] (TBS 2/3)	0.9	8.0	473,000

SYNDICATION

	Week Ending Jan. 21	Since Jan. 1
WWF	9.9/237 stations	9.2
NWA	9.7/171 stations	7.7

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